

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PL, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS STATEMENT ON KATYN FOREST MASSACRE

1. TODAY THE DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICE POSTED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING THE KATYN FOREST MASSACRE: BEGIN TEXT: DURING THE PRESS BRIEFING ON JUNE 29 A QUESTION AROSE AS TO WHETHER THE US GOVERNMENT HAD EVER MADE A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE MASSACRE OF POLISH ARMY OFFICERS AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS AT THE KATYN FOREST IN 1940. (PARA) A REVIEW OF DEPARTMENTAL RECORDS CONFIRMS THAT A SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, CHAIRED BY CONGRESSMAN MADDEN, CONDUCTED AN EXHAUSTIVE INQUIRY INTO THE MASSACRE. (PARA) THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT, TOGETHER WITH SEVEN VOLUMES OF TESTIMONY, WAS TRANSMITTED TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL ON
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FEBRUARY 10, 1953 BY OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM AMBASSADOR HENRY CABOT LODGE WITH A REQUEST THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. END TEXT

2. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR RESPONSE TO ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS. SO FAR NO FURTHER QUESTIONS

HAVE ARISEN. BEGIN TEXT: Q: THE DEPARTMENT'S RECENT

PRESS STATEMENT ABOUT THE KATYN FOREST MASSACRE MENTIONS THAT AMBASSADOR LODGE IN 1953 CONVEYED THE MADDEN COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL. DID LODGE HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER TO SAY ABOUT THIS?

A: YES, THE TEXT OF THE DIPLOMATIC NOTE CAN BE FOUND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BULLETIN, DATED FEBRUARY 23, 1953. SUBSEQUENT REMARKS BY LODGE IN THE UN POLITICAL COMMITTEE CAN BE FOUND IN DEPARTMENT OF STATE BULLETIN, DATED APRIL 13, 1953.

Q: DOES THE ADMINISTRATION HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER TO SAY ON THIS?

A: THE UNITED STATES' POSITION ON THIS ISSUE IS A MATTER OF HISTORICAL RECORD, AND WE SEE NO NEED TO REOPEN THE QUESTION. END TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MASSACRES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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